

Amendments To The Drawings:

The attached drawing sheets include two annotated and two replacement sheets, i.e., one annotated and one replacement sheet for FIG. 1 and one annotated and one replacement sheet for FIG. 2.

Attachments: Annotated sheet for FIG. 1

Replacement sheet for FIG. 1

Annotated sheet for FIG 2

Replacement sheet for FIG. 2

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner maintained a previously-made objection to the drawings because lead lines in the figures filed in the previous response were not uniformly thick and well-defined. In response, the Applicant has submitted herewith, a new FIG. 1 and a new FIG. 2. No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, claim 11 submitted with the previous response was withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner because he determined that the claim was directed to an invention within Species B, which was not elected by the Applicant. The Applicant acknowledges that claim 11 has been withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner.

The specification was objected to as failing to provide support for the limitation of claim 1 that recites that the bristles have a first end within the dispensing orifice and a second end located outside of and away from the dispensing orifice. The Examiner noted that on page 5, line 15, the orifice was indicated as reference numeral 26 but in the FIG. 2 that was filed with the last response, the bristles were not depicted as having an end within the part indicated by numeral 26.

New FIG. 2 filed herewith shows bristles (identified by reference numeral 18) with one end located within a dispensing orifice (identified by reference numeral 26). The new FIG. 2 therefore overcomes the Examiner's objection to the specification as not supporting claim 1 is overcome. No new matter has been added by the new figures because the subject matter shown in the new figures, i.e., bristles within the orifice, was clearly disclosed in the original claims and specification.

Claims 1, 5, 10 and 12-15 were objected to because of informalities. In response to the Examiner's objections to those claims, claims 1 and 14 have been amended to delete the second occurrence of "from the orifice." Claims 12 and 13 have been amended to add the word --a-- between "of" and "piston." Claims 14 and 15 have been amended to add the word --being-- between the

words "the" and "piston."

Claims 1, 5, 10 and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2. The Examiner rejected those claims because he determined that it was not clear whether "an applicator for liquid or gel in the reservoir" was the same as or different from the applicator recited in the claim preambles.

Claim 1 has been amended to change the claim's preamble to recite that what is claimed is an applicator for an aesthetic. The claim has been further amended in the last limitation to recite that the anesthetic that is dispensed can be either a liquid or a gel. Thus, there can be no confusion as to what is being claimed.

Claim 14 has been amended in much the same way except that claim 14 recites, amongst other things, that the plurality of bristles can act as an applicator for anesthetic liquid. Claim 15 has been amended to recite that the bristles can act as an applicator for anesthetic gel.

Lastly, claims 1, 5, 10 and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. ¶102(b) as being anticipated by U.S> patent no. 6,227,739 to Kageyama.

As set forth above, each of the independent claims has been amended to recite that what is being claimed is an applicator for an anesthetic. In claim 14, the anesthetic is claimed to be a liquid and claim 15 the anesthetic is claimed to be a gel. New dependent claims recite different anesthetics as well as different kinds of sweeteners that are included in the liquid and/or gel.

Using a web browser, the text of Kageyama as published by the USPTO on its web site for occurrences of the word "anesthetic" by which it was established that the word does not appear anywhere in the reference. The text was also searched for the words "pain" and "mouth" by which it was determined that "pain" does not appear anywhere in Kageyama. The word "mouth" is in the reference, however, the word "mouth" is used only in connection with a description of the claimed apparatus and not in connection with any use of the apparatus by a human.

Since the scope of each independent claim has been narrowed to avoid

reading on Kageyama, each independent claim is allowable over the Kageyama reference. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are therefore respectfully requested.

Sincerely,



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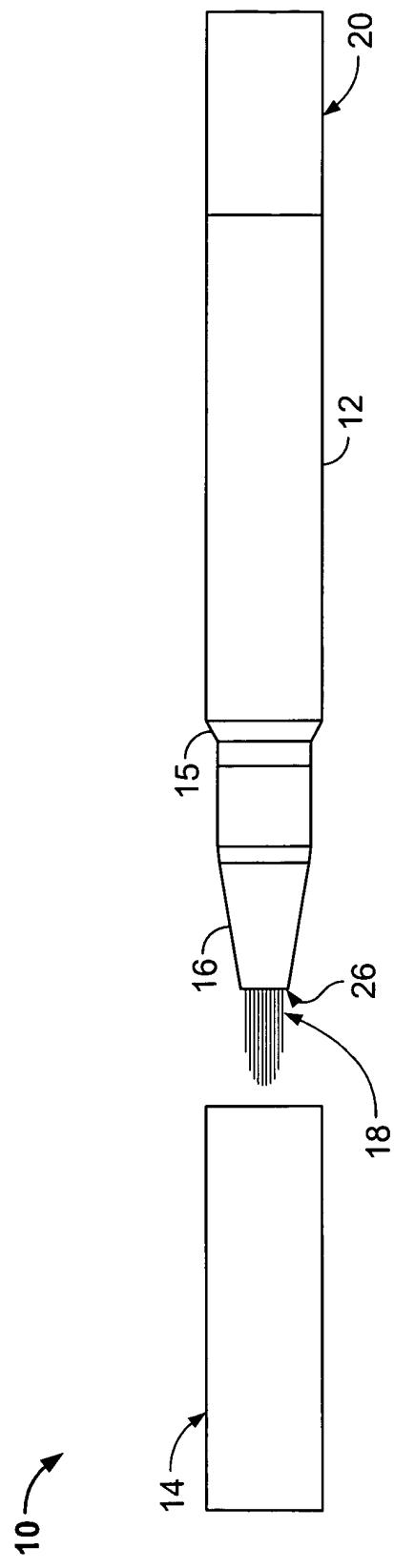


FIG. 1

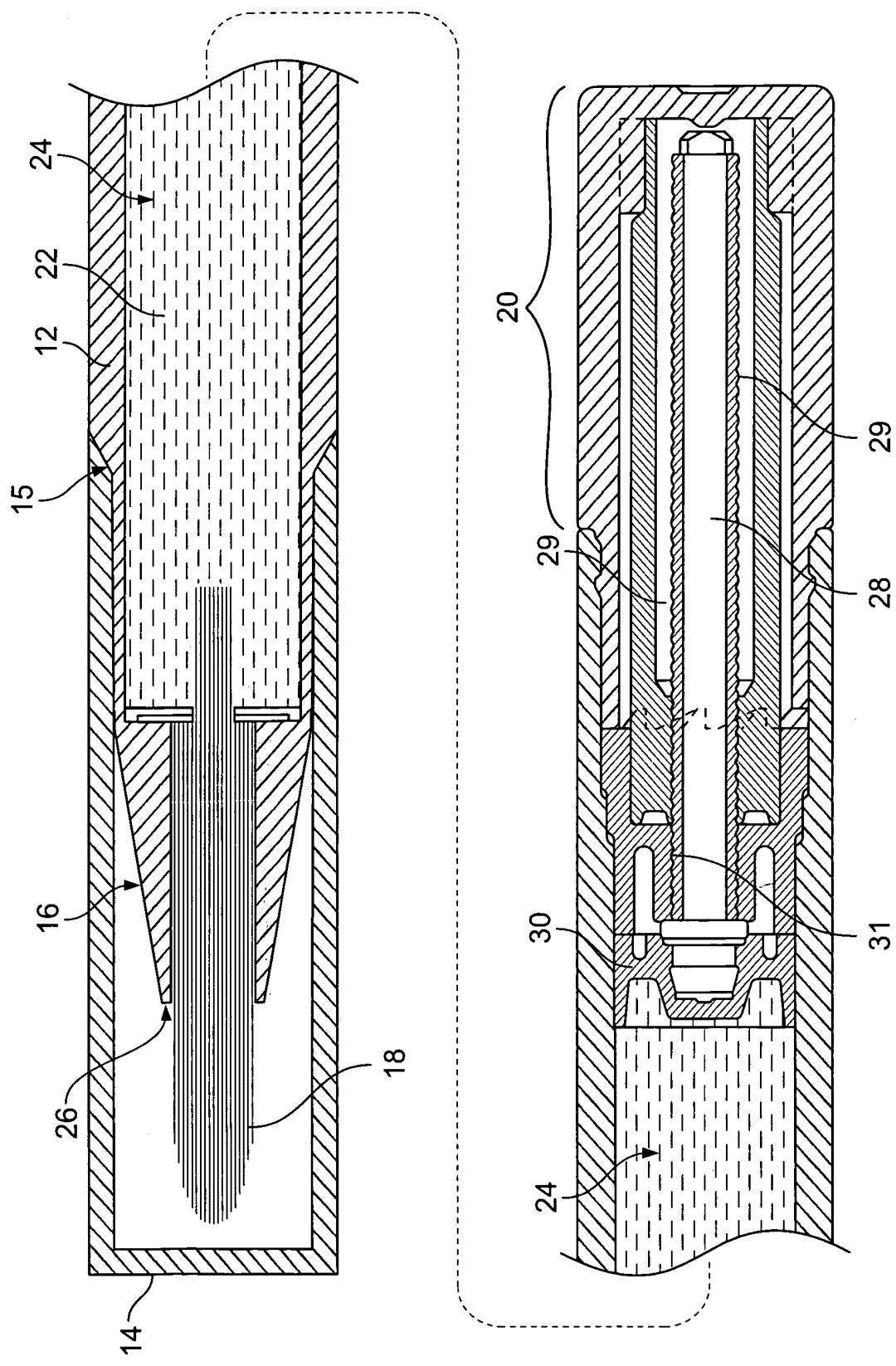


FIG. 2